June 23, 1842

My name is John and I am one of three children. I have a brother, Walter, a sister, Jane, and two parents. I decided to help my father buy the food and supplies for our trip the other day. We bought at least a ton of flour, bacon, corn meal and hardtack. I had to buy all of the cooking utensils. I also had to load it into the wagon. Father bought enough bullets for his rifle to last a lifetime. We had all the water and bed supplies at home.

Today we set out on our journey west from Boonville, Missouri. My family decided to go along with a large wagon train. The head of the train decided to go on the Santa Fe Trail until we find the Oregon Trail Junction; from there we will head along the Oregon Trail. Our destination is Oregon and the Pacific Ocean, where Mother says we will live better lives. In our wagon there are four people and one dog.

We set out at 10:30 A.M. I was very excited, but my hopes dropped in the first ten minutes. It was too boring to bear. We passed Arrow Rock and stayed for the night.

By: John J.